

Civic Engagement update

Summary of March 2018

Office of Civic Engagement activities



Board Advisory Youth Commission

In January, Civic Engagement staff began outreach efforts for the District's first Board Advisory Youth Commission. Staff reached over 160,000 students via social media, blogs, newsletters, and several distribution lists. Staff also passed out flyers at the schools and posted flyers at local hangouts. Staff worked with several youth-focused community based organizations to spread the word

APPLY NOW
Youth Commission
Giving high school students a voice in water!

Want to be the voice of your generation and speak up on how public policies affect young people? Want to learn and be inspired to be a future public policy leader? Apply to be on the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission and get involved in issues and activities relating to water supply, conservation, flood protection, and stream stewardship.

Eligibility:

- High School Youth (enrolled by Fall 2018)
- Resident of Santa Clara County
- Available to attend quarterly meetings & educational activities throughout the year

Meetings will be held at Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters:
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

Application EXTENDED: Friday, March 2, 2018

Download an application at: <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committee>
Commission selections and appointments will be made by SCVWD Board Members (21 youth commissioners will be appointed).

For questions or more info email: youthcommission@valleywater.org

about the commission. Application period was from January 29 – March 2. A total of 118 applications were received and Board Members are in the process of selecting their appointments to the 21-member youth commission.

District's Volunteer Program

Staff held a Volunteer Staff Advisory Group call at the end of March. The agenda included announcements for upcoming creek cleanups for the National River Cleanup Day and South County Trash Bash event as well as discussions on recruitment for new volunteer classroom assistants and tour docents for the water education and recycled water programs, including outreach materials.

In collaboration with Creek Stewardship, a new Volunteer Management System was secured to build out database of volunteers, which can also be used to host tour event registration for the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center



Creek Stewardship

Adopt-A-Creek Partner Cleanups:

2/25/18 – Boy Scout Troop 286 (300 lbs. of trash/15 volunteers)

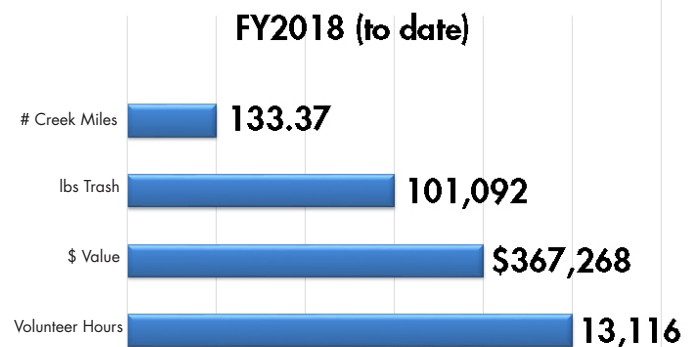
3/25/18 – Adobe Systems (250 lbs. of trash/12 volunteers)

Program Cleanup Partnerships:

3/24/18 – San Martin Trash Bash (2,580 lbs. of trash/85 volunteers)

National River Cleanup Day:

Finalized registrations for National River Cleanup Day (41 cleanup sites in Santa Clara County)

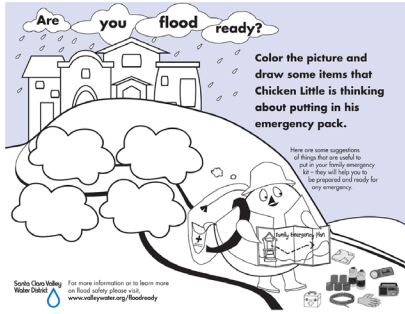


Education Outreach

The education outreach team reached a total of 5,562 students through classroom visits and tours, including a Bay Works Career Fair and other events. Staff also reached 100 VTA employees during a lunchtime World Water Day event on March 22 and provided educational activities for the district's Teacher Externship program to seven high school teachers.

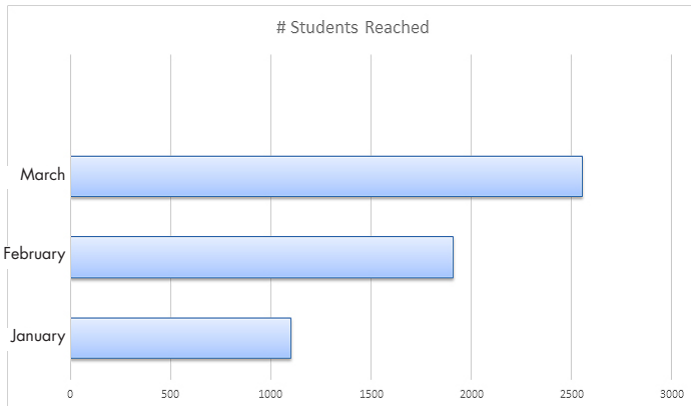
Education staff also conducted a youth flood awareness elementary school contest: "Are You Flood Ready?" Coloring Contest, as part of the part of our participation in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS). The contest closed on March 16. A total of 149 packets were handed out during class presentations or

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mailed to classrooms between November and March with 37 packets/ classes entering into the contest (24% entry rate based on class numbers). The Board of

Directors will present prizes to the final winners this later this spring at an upcoming board meeting.



Recycled Water Outreach Activities



The water district received a Silicon Valley Conservation Award in the Education category for our recycled water and purified outreach efforts at the Silicon Valley Advanced Purification Center. The 10-year anniversary gala and award celebration was held on World Water Day, March 22 in Palo Alto.

- 19 tours conducted at SVAWPC, including to senior citizen groups, colleges, Girl Scouts, and teachers/educators
- Over 150 taste tests
- Updated: www.purewater4u.org

Safe, Clean Water Grants and Partnerships



Over \$1 million in grants and partnerships awarded:

- 9 new B7 (Cleanup Efforts & Education)
- 3 new D3 (Trails)
- 11 new Mini-grants
- 1 new B7 partnership
- 7 new Water-to-Go stations

Completed Grant Projects: 7

Site Visits: Penitencia Creek Trail, City of San Jose

Looking ahead to April...

- Upcoming Tours:
 - Water Career Pathways Consortium Teacher Externship Private
 - Soquel Creek Water District employees
 - Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management
- Earth Day Purified Water Taste Test event for district employees
- Youth Commission appointments
- New grant funding recommendations
- National River Cleanup Day ongoing outreach efforts
- Scheduled to visit 57 classrooms at 12 different schools that will reach 1,667 students